

REMARKS

Claims 1 and 3-8 are all the claims pending in the application. Claims 1 and 3-8 have been examined. Claim 1 has been rejected as being anticipated under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) by JP 11-292360 to Suzuki ("Suzuki"). Claim 2 is cancelled by this Amendment.

I. AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS

Claim 1 has been amended to incorporate the limitations recited in claim 2. In addition, Applicant has amended claim 1 to more thoroughly define the present invention. Claim 3 has been amended to depend from claim 1.

As the Examiner indicated in the outstanding Office Action that claims 2-8 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form, Applicant submits that the amendments to claims 1 and 3 place the claims in a condition for allowance.

II. AMENDMENT TO THE SPECIFICATION

The paragraph in the specification starting on page 2, line 15 has been amended to provide a more accurate description of the copying machine taught in the Suzuki reference (JP 11-292360).

III. CONCLUSION

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111
U.S. Application No. 09/757,564

Attorney Docket No. Q62620

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,



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